



# NEWS RELEASE



United States Department of Agriculture  
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE  
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## USDA TO GATHER DATA ON COTTON PRODUCTION

**Baton Rouge, LA** – In July, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) will reach out to cotton producers across the country to begin collecting information for the monthly *Crop Production* report. Each year the Cotton Objective Yield Survey monitors sample area of cotton fields during the growing season. By gathering data on cotton plants, boll count and weight, NASS can better determine the official estimate of cotton yield and production.

"In July, NASS representatives will contact selected producer in six major cotton producing states, I am proud that Louisiana is one of those states," said Becky Cross, Director of the NASS Delta Regional Office. Starting in July, an initial visit with the producer will consist of a brief interview to determine field production and to gain permission to enter the selected field. The survey will continue until after harvest, however these monthly visits will not require any time from the producer. In addition to regular monthly measurement, some fields will be sampled for inclusion in the post-harvest gleaning sample.

In Louisiana, NASS will survey approximately 100 cotton producers. By participating in the survey, cotton producers can ensure that NASS provides timely, accurate and objective data that all sectors of the U.S. cotton industry depend on to help make sound business decisions.

Information provided by respondents, for all NASS surveys, is confidential by law. NASS safeguards the privacy of all responses and publishes only aggregate data, ensuring that no individual operation or producer can be identified.

Survey results will be published in the monthly *Crop Production* Report, August through November 2014. Cotton final yield and production estimates will be published in the *Annual Crop Production* report in January 2015. These and all NASS reports are available online at [www.nass.usda.gov](http://www.nass.usda.gov). For more information call the NASS Delta Regional Office at (800) 327-2970.

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NASS provides accurate, timely, useful and objective statistics in service to U.S. agriculture. We invite you to provide occasional feedback on our products and services. Sign up at <http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/subscriptions> and look for "NASS Data User Community."

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